

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OIC-02 DPW-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 AID-05 DHA-02 ORM-02 SCA-01 ERDA-05

OES-03 TRSE-00 NRC-05 /132 W
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R 121806Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5586

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00530

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, GW

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN LAW: EXPERTS MEETING ON
CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

REFS: (A) STATE 003501 (NOTAL)

(B) BONN 20638 (NOTAL)

1. ON JANUARY 12, WE MET WITH DR. ANDREAE, CHIEF OF
THE DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL OFFICE IN THE FOREIGN
OFFICE, TO PASS THE INFORMATION CONTAINED REF A IN
RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR ROTH'S EARLIER INQUIRY (REF B).

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ANDREAE WELCOMED THE INFORMATION THAT THE US INTENDED

TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS AT LUGANO. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, ANDREAE VOICED HIS CONCERN THAT THE CURRENT DISARRAY IN THE RANKS OF THE WESTERN ALLIES WILL PREVENT THEM FROM BLOCKING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSENSUS AT THE EXPERTS MEETING FOR A BAN ON INCENDIARY WEAPONS. ANDREAE BELIEVES A MAJORITY WILL FORM IN FAVOR OF THE SWEDISH DRAFT RESOLUTIONS WHICH WILL THEN BE REPORTED TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE. THE CONFERENCE IN TURN MIGHT SUPPORT AND ADOPT SUCH RESOLUTIONS, EVENTUALLY REFERRING THEM TO THE PARTICIPATING STATES FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION.

2. ANDREAE NOTED THE WIDE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS AMONG NATO COUNTRIES ON THE QUESTION OF BANNING CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT BOTH THE DUTCH AND THE NORWEGIANS SUPPORTED THE SWEDISH RESOLUTIONS. HE ASKED WHETHER THE US HAD ANY SPECIFIC IDEAS AS TO HOW TO DEAL WITH THE RESOLUTIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, SHOULD AN ATTEMPT BE MADE TO CHANGE THEM, OR, FAILING THAT, HOW COULD THE DIVERGENT WESTERN VIEWS BEST BE COORDINATED? ANDREAE INDICATED THAT THE PARIS GROUP INTENDED TO MEET IN LUGANO ON JANUARY 28. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT SOME PROGRESS COULD BE ACHIEVED AT THIS MEETING TO DEVELOP SPECIFIC METHODS FOR DEALING WITH THE RESOLUTIONS ISSUE.

3. ANDREAE THEN RETURNED TO AN OLD FRG IDEA. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THE ISSUE OF CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS COULD BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE TO THE CCD. IN THIS MANNER, THE DOMINATION BY THIRD WORLD STATES IN THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE COULD BE AVOIDED. ANDREAE NOTED THAT THE US POSITION WAS THAT THE TIME WAS NOT RIPE TO INTRODUCE THE CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS PROBLEM INTO THE CCD, BUT RATHER THAT DISCUSSIONS IN THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE SHOULD CONTINUE UNTIL A MORE APPROPRIATE TIME. (COMMENT: ANDREAE SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT THE "MORE APPROPRIATE TIME" HAS NOW ARRIVED. WASHINGTON REACTION AS TO WHETHER THE TIMING IS MORE PROPITIOUS NOW WOULD BE

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ACTION L-03

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00530

APPRECIATED.)

4. ANDREAE PRESENTED INFORMALLY THE VIEW THAT THE NATO MILITARY COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ASKED TO REVIEW THE REPORT WHICH IT MADE LAST YEAR (MCM-63-75 DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 1975). ANDREAE INDICATED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ASKED TO DO A MORE DETAILED STUDY. HE SAID THE CURRENT REPORT WAS COMPLETED HURRIEDLY UNDER TIME PRESSURE. HE SAID A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT COULD ANALYZE SUCH ISSUES AS UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS NATO COULD GIVE UP VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF WEAPONS. SINCE IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO GET SUCH A STUDY OFF THE GROUND, ANDREAE VOICED THE BELIEF THAT AN
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INITIATIVE SHOULD BE TAKEN NOW TO INSTRUCT THE MILITARY

COMMITTEE TO MAKE SUCH A STUDY.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT REACTION TO THE
INFORMAL SUGGESTION ABOUT A NEW MANDATE TO THE MILITARY
COMMITTEE.

HILLENBRAND

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